

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and remarks herein.

By this amendment, claims 1-4 have been amended, claim 5 has been canceled, and new claims 6-12 have been added. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-4 and 6-12 will be pending.

§103 Rejection of Claims 1-5

On pages 2-4 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pease et al. (U.S. Patent 5,759,102; hereinafter referred to as "Pease"). As shown above, claims 1-4 have been amended and claim 5 has been canceled, thereby obviating the rejection to claims 1-5. The rejection as applied to amended claims 1-4 is respectfully traversed below.

As shown above, claim 1 of the present application has been amended and calls for:

1. (Currently Amended) A video game system in which a video game is progressed in accordance with a game software program read out from a video game program recording medium and, if there exist contents to be printed in the course of the progress of the video game, the contents are converted into printing data to be printed, said system comprising:

a video game apparatus which comprises:

video game software program readout means for reading out a video game software program from a video game program recording medium, having recorded thereon said video game software program, said video game software program being made up of a main portion of the video game software program, printing contents data and a printer driver for printing said printing contents data;

a non-volatile memory for storing a printer driver along with information on game progress;

printer driver updating means for updating the printer driver stored in said non-volatile memory by the new printer driver contained in the game software program read out by said video game software program readout means; and

printing controlling means for reading out the printer driver stored in said non-volatile memory to a work memory and for converting the printing contents data read out from said video game program recording medium by said video game software program readout means into printing data by using the printer driver on said work memory to output the printing data; and

a printing apparatus for printing said printing data; wherein said printer driver includes: a common engine module for performing a process which is not dependent on the printer type, and a plurality of dedicated engine modules, each corresponding to a respective type of printer, for performing a process which is dependent on the printer type.

Accordingly, in claim 1, the printer driver includes a common engine module and a plurality of dedicated engine modules. Each dedicated engine module corresponds to a respective type of printer and performs process dependent on the corresponding printer type.

It does not appear that the Examiner has established how Pease, as relied upon by the Examiner, discloses or suggests claim 1. In particular, it does not appear that the Examiner has established how Pease discloses or suggests a printer driver that includes a common engine module and a plurality of dedicated engine modules, as called for in claim 1. The Examiner states that Pease does not disclose that a peripheral device is a printer (see page 3 of the Office Action). If Pease does not address a printer, it appears that Pease would not address a printer driver that includes a plurality of dedicated engine modules each corresponding to a respective type of printer. More generally, it does not appear that the Examiner has explained how Pease addresses a peripheral driver that includes a common engine module and a plurality of dedicated engine modules, each dedicated engine module corresponding to a respective type of device

within the group or class of peripherals (e.g., printers) corresponding to the peripheral driver.

Therefore, it does not appear that the Examiner has established how Pease shows or suggests claim 1.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has not established how Pease, as relied upon by the Examiner, anticipates or suggests claim 1, and so also has not established how Pease, as relied upon by the Examiner, anticipates or suggests claims 6-7 that depend from claim 1. Similar arguments apply to claims 2-4 and so to claims 8-9 that depend from claim 2, to claims 10-11 that depend from claim 3, and claim 12 that depends from claim 4.

Based upon the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 1-5 are not anticipated by nor rendered obvious by the teachings of Pease, as presented and referenced by the Examiner. Accordingly, it is submitted that the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-5 based upon 35 U.S.C. §103(a) has been overcome by the present remarks and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, entry of this amendment, and the allowance of this application with claims 1-4 and 6-12 is respectfully solicited.

In regard to the claims amended herein and throughout the prosecution of this application, it is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are

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made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

In the event that additional cooperation in this case may be helpful to complete its prosecution, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number written below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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